Charter Inland Waterways Users Board

- 1. <u>Committee's Official Designation</u>: The committee shall be known as the Inland Waterways Users Board ("the Board").
- 2. <u>Authority</u>: The Secretary of Defense, pursuant to the provisions of 33 U.S.C. § 2251 and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended) and 41 C.F.R. §102-3.50(a), established the Board.
- 3. <u>Objectives and Scope of Activities</u>: The Board shall provide independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the U.S. inland waterways and inland harbors, as set out in paragraph four below.
- 4. <u>Description of Duties:</u> The Board shall provide the Secretary of Defense, through the Secretary of the Army and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to construction and rehabilitation priorities and spending levels on the commercial navigation features and components of the U.S. inland waterways and inland harbors.
 - According to 33 U.S.C. § 2251(b), the Board shall annually file their recommendations with the Secretary of the Army and with Congress.
- 5. <u>Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports</u>: The Board shall report to the Secretary of Defense through the Secretary of the Army, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
 - The Secretary of the Army, pursuant to DoD policy, may act upon the Board's advice and recommendations.
- 6. <u>Support</u>: The Department of Defense (DoD), through the Department of the Army, shall provide support as deemed necessary for the performance of the Board's functions and shall ensure compliance with the requirements of FACA, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 ("the Sunshine Act") (5 U.S.C. § 552b, as amended), governing Federal statutes and regulations, and established DoD policies and procedures.
- 7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years: The estimated annual operating cost for the Board, to include travel, meetings, and contract support, is approximately \$350,000.00. The estimated annual personnel cost to the DoD is 2.7 full time equivalents.
- 8. <u>Designated Federal Officer</u>: The Board's Designated Federal Officer (DFO), pursuant to DoD policy, shall be a full-time or permanent part-time DoD employee, and shall be appointed in accordance with governing DoD policies and procedures.
 - In addition, the Board's DFO is required to be in attendance at all meetings of the Board and any subcommittees for the entire duration of each and every meeting. However, in the

absence of the Board's DFO, a properly approved Alternate DFO, duly appointed to the Board according to DoD policies and procedures, shall attend the entire duration of the meetings of the Board or any subcommittees.

The DFO, or the Alternate DFO, shall call all meetings of the Board and any subcommittees; prepare and approve all meeting agendas; and adjourn any meeting, when the DFO, or the Alternate DFO, determines adjournment to be in the public's interest or required by governing regulations or DoD policies and procedures.

- 9. <u>Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings</u>: Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 2251(b), the Board shall meet at least semi-annually.
- 10. <u>Duration</u>: The need for this advisory function is on a continuing basis; however, it is subject to renewal every two years.
- 11. Termination: The Board shall terminate upon repeal of 33 U.S.C. § 2251.
- 12. <u>Membership and Designation</u>: Board members, as determined by the DoD, shall be representative members and, pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 2251(a), the Board shall be composed of eleven members.

Based upon the Secretary of the Army's recommendation, the Secretary of Defense shall invite primary commercial users and shippers of the inland and intracoastal waterways to serve on the Board. Commercial users and shippers invited to serve on the Board shall designate an individual, subject to Secretary of Defense approval, to represent the organization's interests.

The Department of Defense, when considering prospective users and shippers to be represented on the Board, shall ensure selections represent various regions of the country and a spectrum of the primary users and shippers utilizing the inland and intracoastal waterways for commercial purposes. Due consideration shall be given to assure a balance among the members based on the ton-mile shipments of the various categories of commodities shipped on inland and intracoastal waterways.

A primary user or shipper may be represented on the Board, at the request of the Secretary of the Army and with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, for a two-year term of service. A user or shipper may be represented on the Board no more than two terms of service (four years), without prior approval of the Secretary of Defense. A user or shipper may be subsequently represented on the Board, but only after being off the Board for at least two years.

In addition to the primary users and shippers invited by the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army shall designate, and the Secretaries of Agriculture, Transportation and Commerce may each designate, a representative to act as an observer of the Board. These observers, who have no voting rights, shall each be a full-time or permanent part-time employee of his or her respective agency.

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 2251(a), the Secretary of the Army shall designate one Board member to serve as the Board's Chairperson. With the exception of travel and per diem for official travel, all Board members shall serve without compensation.

- 13. <u>Subcommittees</u>: The Department, when necessary and consistent with the Board's mission and DoD policies and procedures, may establish subcommittees, task groups, or working groups to support the Board. Establishment of subcommittees will be based upon a written determination, to include terms of reference, by the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, or the Secretary of the Army. Currently, the Board does not use subcommittees. If the Department determines that the establishment of subcommittees is warranted, the Board's charter must be amended prior to such establishment.
- 14. <u>Recordkeeping</u>: The records of the Board and its subcommittees shall be handled according to section 2, General Records Schedule 26 and appropriate Department of Defense policies and procedures. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act of 1966 (5 U.S.C. §552, as amended).

15. Filing Date: April 19, 2013